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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/765,491	01/26/2004	Christopher Stewart	PD-203075	9546

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THE DIRECTV GROUP INC  
PATENT DOCKET ADMINISTRATION RE/R11/A109  
P O BOX 956  
EL SEGUNDO, CA 90245-0956

EXAMINER
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LIN, JASON K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2623

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/19/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/765,491	STEWART, CHRISTOPHER	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Jason K. Lin	2623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 December 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13,38-41 and 49-55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13,38-41 and 49-55 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is responsive to application No. 10/765,491 filed on 01/26/2004. Claims 1-13, 38-41, 49-55 are pending and have been examined.

#### *Response to Arguments*

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-13, 38-41, 49-50 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim **55**, is vague because the phrase "none of the other streaming files have a higher rating" contradicts "said receiver selects the next highest entertainment file."

In order to advance prosecution on the merits the examiner will interpret, "The interactive entertainment system of claim 54, wherein if the current streaming entertainment file has been blocked and none of the other streaming files have a higher rating, said receiver selects the next highest entertainment file, tunes to the corresponding channel and streams that next highest rated entertainment file to the user output device." to be

-- The interactive entertainment system of claim 54, wherein if the streaming entertainment file has been blocked, said receiver selects the next highest entertainment file, tunes to the corresponding channel and

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streams that next highest rated entertainment file to the user output device. - -

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. **Claims 49, 50** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Stumphauzer, II (US 2003/0014767).

Consider **claim 49**, Stumphauzer teaches a method of transmitting entertainment files through a receiver comprising the steps of (Fig. 1, Paragraph 0013):

a. streaming a plurality of entertainment files on a respective plurality of channels to the receiver via a first communication network (Paragraph 0021 teaches numerous channels transmitted from satellite Fig.1, 1020 to a receiver Fig.1, 1040. The channels may contain different genre types of content. Paragraph 0015 teaches that programming can be any type of programming such as music, radio shows, television programs, etc.);

d. selectively tuning an input of the receiver to one of said channels to retrieve one of the entertainment files based upon the user's preferences to the currently streaming files (Paragraph 0046-0050 teaches automatically tuning to the specified channel containing content with a rank higher than the current content being played. This is done by comparing the PDT [guide] with the user playlist [user's preferences] and matching the corresponding preferred content) and directing the retrieved file to a receiver output (Paragraph 0018 teaches processing a signal that provides broadcast output of the signal for listening by a user. Fig. 2 and paragraph 0020 teaches a display Fig.2, 2160 and input/output device(s) Fig.2, 2170); and

f. directing the streaming entertainment file from the receiver output to a user output device that plays the streaming entertainment file (Paragraph 0018 teaches processing a signal that provides broadcast output of the signal for listening by a user. Fig. 2 and paragraph 0020 teaches a display Fig.2, 2160 and input/output device(s) Fig.2, 2170); and

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Consider **claim 50**, Stumphauzer teaches that the plurality of entertainment files includes at least one of audio files, video files and audio/video files (Paragraph 0013, 0015, 0021).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. **Claims 38-41** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stumphauzer, II (US 2003/0014767), and further in view of Shoff et al. (2004/0210824).

Consider **claim 38**, Stumphauzer teaches an entertainment system that enables the selective transfer of entertainment files (Fig. 1) comprising:

a system server (Fig.1, 1100), said system server residing at a communication center (Transmission Facility Fig.1, 1010);

a receiver (Fig.1, 1040, Fig. 2), where the receiver reviews a current entertainment guide for the streaming files, ranks those files based upon ratings assigned by the user and retrieves a file that meets a user's preferences via the first communication network (Paragraph 0022 teaches the PDT contains information about programming currently being broadcast and to be broadcasted on each channel. Paragraph 0046-0050

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teaches automatically tuning to the specified channel containing content with a rank higher than the current content being played. This is done by comparing the PDT [guide] with the user playlist [user's preferences] and matching the corresponding preferred content); and

a user output device, where said output device plays the retrieved streaming entertainment file (Paragraph 0049-0050 teaches tuning to the preferred content. Paragraph 0018 teaches processing a signal that provides broadcast output of the signal for listening by a user. Fig. 2 and paragraph 0020 teaches a display Fig.2, 2160 and input/output device(s) Fig.2, 2170).

Stumphauzer teaches a system memory (Paragraph 0015 teaches prerecorded programming. It is inherent that there is a system memory for the storage of prerecorded programming), said system memory residing at the communication center (Paragraph 0015 teaches Transmission facility Fig.1, 1010 [communication center] that includes studios that produce programming for broadcast and include numerous titles of prerecorded programming), but does not teach a system database, and is accessible by the system server;

Stumphauzer teaches a plurality of entertainment files stored on the system memory (Paragraph 0015 teaches numerous different titles of prerecorded programming such as music, radio shows, television programs, etc.), the plurality of entertainment files for streaming transmission over a plurality of channels in a first communication network

(Paragraph 0021 teaches numerous channels transmitted from satellite Fig.1, 1020 to a receiver Fig.1, 1040. The channels may contain different genre types of content. Paragraph 0015 teaches that programming can be any type of programming such as music, radio shows, television programs, etc.), but does not explicitly teach does not explicitly teach a plurality of entertainment files stored on a system database are retrieved by a system server for streaming.

In an analogous art, Shoff teaches a system server residing at a communication center (Paragraph 0034 teaches a continuous media server Fig.2, 42 located at the headend Fig.2, 22);

a system database is accessible by a system server (Paragraph 0034 teaches a database of programs Fig.2, 40 that can be served by a media server Fig.2, 42);

a plurality of entertainment files stored on a system database are retrieved by a system server for streaming (Paragraph 0034 teaches that a database of programs Fig.2, 40 can be served by media server Fig.2 42).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Stumphauzer's system to have a system database and server residing at a communication center that can access the system database for retrieving files to be streamed, as taught by Shoff, for the advantage of offering more efficient control and centralized means for indexing/retrieving of files for transmission over the network.



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Consider **claim 39**, Stumphauzer teaches further comprising the step of:

a. supplying audio content with each of the entertainment files (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0015 teaches programming can be any type of programming suitable for broadcasting such as music, radio shows, television programs, etc).

Consider **claim 40**, Stumphauzer teaches further comprising the step of:

a. supplying audio and video content with each of the entertainment files (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0015 teaches programming can be any type of programming suitable for broadcasting such as music, radio shows, television programs, etc).

Consider **claim 41**, Stumphauzer teaches further comprising the step of:

a. supplying video content with each of the entertainment files (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0015 teaches programming can be any type of programming suitable for broadcasting such as music, radio shows, television programs, etc).

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8. **Claims 1-8, 11, 13, 51-56** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stumphauzer, II (US 2003/0014767) in view of Shoff et al. (2004/0210824) and further in view of Pendakur (2003/0135605).

Consider **claim 1**, Stumphauzer teaches an interactive entertainment system (Fig.1) comprising:

a system server (Fig.1, 1100), said system server residing at a communication center (Transmission Facility Fig.1, 1010);

a receiver (Fig.1, 1040, Fig. 2), where the receiver is selectively tuned to one of said plurality of channels in a first communication network based on a user's preferences to retrieve a preferred streaming entertainment file (Paragraph 0046-0050 teaches automatically tuning to the specified channel containing content with a rank higher than the current content being played. This is done by comparing the PDT [guide] with the user playlist [user's preferences] and matching the corresponding preferred content);

a user output device, where said output device plays the preferred streaming entertainment file (Paragraph 0049-0050 teaches tuning to the preferred content. Paragraph 0018 teaches processing a signal that provides broadcast output of the signal for listening by a user. Fig. 2 and paragraph 0020 teaches a display Fig.2, 2160 and input/output device(s) Fig.2, 2170).

Stumphauzer teaches a system memory (Paragraph 0015 teaches prerecorded programming. It is inherent that there is a system memory in

order to store the prerecorded programming), said system memory residing at a communication center (Paragraph 0015 teaches Transmission facility Fig.1, 1010 [communication center] that includes studios that produce programming for broadcast and include numerous titles of prerecorded programming), but does not explicitly teach a system database residing at a communication center and is accessible by the system server;

Stumphauzer teaches a plurality of entertainment files stored on the system memory (Paragraph 0015 teaches numerous different titles of prerecorded programming such as music, radio shows, television programs, etc.), the plurality of entertainment files for streaming transmission over a respective plurality of channels in a first communication network (Paragraph 0021 teaches numerous channels transmitted from satellite Fig.1, 1020 to a receiver Fig.1, 1040. The channels may contain different genre types of content. Paragraph 0015 teaches that programming can be any type of programming such as music, radio shows, television programs, etc.).

Stumphauzer does not explicitly teach a plurality of entertainment files stored on a system database are retrieved by a system server for streaming, and

a user input device, where said user input device enables a user to interact with the system server and the system database via the receiver,

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where the user provides real time feedback regarding said entertainment files.

In an analogous art, Shoff teaches a system database residing at a communication center (Paragraph 0034 teaches a database of programs Fig.2, 40 maintained at the headend) and is accessible by the system server (Paragraph 0034 teaches a database of programs Fig.2, 40 that can be served by a media server Fig.2, 42);

a plurality of entertainment files stored on a database are retrieved by a system server for streaming (Paragraph 0034 teaches that a database of programs Fig.2, 40 can be served by media server Fig.2 42).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Stumphauzer's system to have a system database and server residing at a communication center that can access the system database for retrieving files to be streamed, as taught by Shoff, for the advantage of offering more efficient control and centralized means for indexing/retrieving of files for transmission over the network.

Stumphauzer and Shoff do not explicitly teach a user input device, where said user input device enables a user to interact with the system server and the system database via the receiver, where the user provides real time feedback regarding said entertainment files.

In an analogous art, Pendakur teaches a user input device (Paragraph 0054 teaches an interface for allowing the user to input rating information Fig.6, 635), where said user input device enables a user to

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interact with the system server and the system database via the receiver, where the user provides real time feedback regarding entertainment files (Paragraph 0041-0043 teaches providing real-time feedback. In this way the provider can know whether or not a certain genre of programming is popular or not).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the combined systems of Stumphauzer and Shoff to have a user input device enables a user to interact with the system server and the system database via the receiver, where the user provides real time feedback regarding said entertainment files, as taught by Pendakur, for the advantage of allowing for quick modification of the content broadcast thereby leading to a higher level of consumer satisfaction with content and potentially greater profits for the content provider (Paragraph 0042).

Consider **claim 2**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach said plurality of entertainment files contain audio content (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0015 teaches programming can be any type of programming suitable for broadcasting such as music, radio shows, television programs, etc).

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Consider **claim 3**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach said plurality of entertainment files contain video content (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0015 teaches programming can be any type of programming suitable for broadcasting such as music, radio shows, television programs, etc).

Consider **claim 4**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach said plurality of entertainment files contain both video and audio content (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0015 teaches programming can be any type of programming suitable for broadcasting such as music, radio shows, television programs, etc).

Consider **claim 5**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach said audio content includes songs (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0015 teaches programming can be any type of programming suitable for broadcasting such as music, radio shows, television programs, etc).

Consider **claim 6**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach said songs include a plurality of music genres (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0021 teaches numerous music channels that features music from different genres such as country, contemporary, classical, rhythm and blues, etc).

Consider **claim 7**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach said plurality of music genres are categorized (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0028

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teaches that a specific selection of songs could be “artists from the eighties, or baroque classical music.” Paragraph 0029 teaches music can be ranked with numbers, with the higher number taking precedence over the smaller one. As shown on Fig. 6, the plurality of music can be prioritized according to rank selections Fig. 6, 6070, thereby categorized by rank) and streamed for listening through the user output device (Paragraph 0018 teaches processing a signal that provides broadcast output of the signal for listening by a user. Fig. 2 and paragraph 0020 teaches a display Fig.2, 2160 and input/output device(s) Fig.2, 2170).

Consider **claim 8**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach said video and audio content includes televised programming (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0015 teaches programming can be any type of programming suitable for broadcasting such as music, radio shows, television programs, etc).

Consider **claim 11**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach that the first communication network is a satellite broadcasting system (Paragraph 0015 and 0017 teaches a satellite Fig.1, 1020 that is used to relay/broadcast programming to users).

Consider **claim 13**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach said reception device includes a user database (Paragraph 0020 teaches a storage device Fig.2, 2180 at the receiver that contains a user playlist).

Consider **claim 51**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach that said user's preferences comprise ratings assigned by that user to said entertainment files (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0029 teaches a ranking for each program on the user playlist), said receiver reviewing the currently streaming entertainment files, ranking those files based upon their ratings and retrieving the file that meets user's preferences (Paragraph 0022 teaches the PDT contains information about programming currently being broadcast and to be broadcasted on each channel. Paragraph 0046-0050 teaches automatically tuning to the specified channel containing content with a rank higher than the current content being played. This is done by comparing the PDT [guide] with the user playlist [user's preferences] and matching the corresponding preferred content).

Consider **claim 52**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach that said receiver reviews a current entertainment guide provided for the streaming entertainment files to rank the files (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0022 teaches the PDT contains information about programming currently being broadcast and to be broadcasted on each channel. Paragraph 0046-0050 teaches automatically tuning to the specified channel containing content with a rank higher than the current content being



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played. This is done by comparing the PDT [guide] with the user playlist [user's preferences] and matching the corresponding preferred content).

Consider **claim 53**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach that said current entertainment guide is transmitted over the first communication network (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0021 teaches transmitting channels of programming over a satellite Fig.1, 1020, as several clusters. Paragraph 0022 teaches that the PDT that contains information about programming currently being broadcast and to be broadcast on each channel is provided in each cluster).

Consider **claim 54**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach that said receiver first determines if the streaming entertainment file on the current channel has an acceptable rating and if acceptable continues to stream that entertainment file to the user output device (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0049-0050 teaches if a rating of the current file is acceptable, the current program continues to play), otherwise said receiver selects another higher rated entertainment file, tunes to the corresponding channel and streams that higher rated entertainment file to the user output

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device (Paragraph 0049-0050 teaches that if the program currently played can be interrupted, the higher ranked program will automatically tuned to. Paragraph 0018 teaches processing a signal that provides broadcast output of the signal for listening by a user. Fig. 2 and paragraph 0020 teaches a display Fig.2, 2160 and input/output device(s) Fig.2, 2170).

Consider **claim 55**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach if the current streaming entertainment file has been blocked and none of the other streaming files have a higher rating, said receiver selects the next highest entertainment file, tunes to the corresponding channel and streams that next highest rated entertainment file to the user output device (Stumphauzer - Paragraph 0049-0050 teaches if a program currently played can be interrupted, the receiver can automatically tune to a higher ranked program. Therefore, the currently streaming program is no longer being output at the receiver [blocked]).

Consider **claim 56**, Stumphauzer, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teach that said receiver is tuned to one said channel and stream the corresponding entertainment file to the user output device, said user input device enables the user to do nothing, block or rate the currently streaming entertainment files, said receiver responding to the do nothing or rating by continuing to stream the current entertainment file and responding to the block by tuning to a next channel (The claim is worded

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in the alternative and the examiner has chosen to examine the “do nothing” alternative. Pendakur- teaches an input from the user to the receiver and the user is able to do nothing and not provide an input).

9. **Claims 9, 10, and 12** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stumphauzer, II (US 2003/0014767) in view of Shoff et al. (2004/0210824), further in view of Pendakur (2003/0135605), and further in view of Connelly (2002/0194585).

Consider **claim 9**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur does not explicitly teach said reception device provides two way communications between the user and the system server via the first communication network.

In an analogous art, Connelly teaches a reception device provides two way communications between the user and a system server via a first communication network (Paragraph 0055 teaches that clients are provided with a bi-directional satellite backchannel where client demand feedback can be sent back the broadcast operations center. The broadcast server Fig.4A, 103A is loaded in the broadcast operations center Fig.4A, 126A).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the combined systems of Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur to have a reception device provides two way communications between the user and a system server via a first communication network, as taught by

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Connelly, for the advantage of providing feedback data via the same links reducing the amount of different communications parts needed).

Consider **claim 10**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teaches said realtime feedback is transmitted to the communications center via a backchannel (Paragraph 0043), but does not explicitly teach said real time feedback is transmitted to the communication center via a second communication network.

In an analogous art, Connelly teaches real time feedback is transmitted to the communication center via a second communication network (Paragraph 0055 teaches client demand feedback can be sent back to the broadcast operations center via a telecommunications link. Telco Network Fig.4A, 113A is separate from satellite communications sytem).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the combined systems of Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur to have real time feedback is transmitted to the communication center via a second communication network, as taught by Connelly, for the advantage of providing feedback data via a more reliable and traditionally used link in order to ensure that feedback data is received by the provider.

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Consider **claim 12**, Stumphauzer, Shoff, and Pendakur teaches that the second communication network is an internet connection (Paragraph 0032 teaches network Fig.1B, 113 may be any type of communications network..., but not limited to, the internet...).

***Conclusion***

10. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason K. Lin whose telephone number is (571)270-1446. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 7:30AM-5:00PM, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Grant can be reached on (571)272-7294.

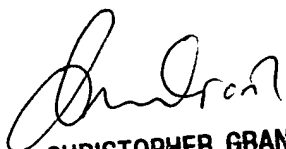
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The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jason Lin

3/06/2007

  
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